

Message Text

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71
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6674
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY OSLO
USMISSION NATO
USEC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6026

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SP
SUBJECT: SANTIAGO CARRILLO

1. THE PRESS IS FULL OF STORIES SPECULATING ABOUT SANTIAGO CARRILLO'S HIGHLY PUBLICIZED APPLICATION FOR A PASSPORT AT THE SPANISH EMBASSY IN PARIS IN THE WAKE OF THE AMNESTY. IN THE PURSUIT OF HIS PASSPORT, CARRILLO MET AUGUST 2 WITH THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, DE LOJENDIO, LEADING PCE SOURCES TO DECLARE LATER THAT IT WAS A "CORDIAL" MEETING. PCE SOURCES, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, ALSO SUGGESTED THAT HE WOULD HAVE HIS REPLY TODAY, BUT TODAY'S PRESS NOTES THAT HE EXPECTS NOW
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TO HAVE TO WAIT A BIT, BUT PLANS TO RETURN TO SPAIN

IN SEPTEMBER.

2. THE BETTING HERE IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT LET HIM IN, AT LEAST JUST YET, FOR THE OBVIOUS REASONS, E.G., UPSETTING THE MILITARY, PROVOKING RIGHT-WING REACTION, ETC. THERE IS SOME QUESTION AS TO WHETHER CARRILLO REALLY EXPECTS TO BE LET BACK IN OR IS RATHER SIMPLY GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS.

3. THE DECISION IS ONE THAT SUAREZ WILL ULTIMATELY HAVE TO MAKE, THOUGH WE EXPECT THE TACTIC WILL PROBABLY BE TO DRAW THINGS OUT FOR AWHILE.

4. THE NEW UNDERSECRETARY FOR PUBLIC ORDER IN THE MINISTRY OF GOVERNMENT, HERNANDEZ GIL, TOLD THE DCM AND EMBOFF TODAY THAT IT WAS A POLITICAL QUESTION AND NOT A LEGAL ONE. IN POINT OF FACT, DESPITE WHAT THE PRESS WAS SAYING, POTENTIAL CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST CARRILLO HAD BEEN WIPED OFF THE BOOK BY THE 30-YEAR STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS WHICH TOOK EFFECT IN 1969 IN RESPECT OF CIVIL WAR CRIMES. SINCE THEN HE HAD BEEN IN FRANCE, AND THUS WAS NOT REALLY SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL CHARGES FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITY. THE LEGAL NICETIES ASIDE, THERE WERE ONLY ABOUT 12 PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN ON THE LIST OF THOSE INELIGIBLE FOR SPANISH PASSPORTS, INCLUDING CARRILLO AND LA PASIONARIA. WHETHER TO GIVE THEM A PASSPORT WAS CLEARLY A POLITICAL DECISION, THOUGH THERE WAS A QUESTION ABOUT CARRILLO'S CITIZENSHIP. (WE HAVE HEARD STORIES THAT LA PASIONARIA MIGHT HAVE SOVIET CITIZENSHIP, BUT HAVE NOT HEARD THAT OF CARRILLO.) ALSO HE RECALLED FRAGA'S REMARK EARLIER THAT IF CARRILLO CAME BACK HIS LIFE MIGHT BE IN DANGER FROM THOSE WHO HELD GRUDGES AGAINST CARRILLO BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT HIM RESPONSIBLE FOR MURDERS OF NATIONALISTS DURING THE CIVIL WAR. IN FACT, REGARDLESS OF THE TRUTH OF THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST CARRILLO, THERE WOULD BE A FEW WHO WOULD WANT TO KILL HIM, AND HE WOULD REQUIRE PROTECTION.

5. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE NEW TECHNICAL UNDERSECRETARY OF THE PRESIDENCY, JOSE MANUEL OTERO (A TACITO FUGURE)
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INDICATED HE PERSONALLY THOUGHT CARRILLO SHOULD BE KEPT OUT FOR THE TIME BEING, SINCE HIS ARRIVAL WOULD EXCITE THE ANIMLS, BUT HE ADDED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT THE FINAL DECISION WOULD BE.
STABLER

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